of Rs. 385.55 lakhs. The scheme is expected to be technically ready by the end of current plan period i.e. 1996-97.

Amendment in the laws to book adulterators

2283. SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item appearing in the Hindu of 23rd June, 1996, under the caption "Laws inadequate to book adulterators" and

(b) if so, whether Government are considering amending laws to book criminals who mix poisonous ingredients in milk and other food products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The existing provisions in the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 and Rules made thereunder are adequate to book adulterators in food articles.

Population growth among the poor

2284. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH MANN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the rate of population growth among the poor section is higher as compared to the other sections of society;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government have taken into consideration this fact while formulating family planning programme and improve their living standard; and

(d) the rate of success achieved in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) Separate information on growth rate of population among poor are not available.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

Recommendation regarding interim relief to Government Servants

2285. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Fifth Pay Commission has recommended to Government third interim relief to government servants;

(b) if so, the details regarding the procedure adopted in this regard taking into consideration the plight of pensioners also; and

(c) the time by when it is likely to be paid?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) The Fifth Central Pay Commission in their Third Interim Report have made the folowing recommendations:—

(i) Grant of Interim Relief at the rate of 10% of the basic pay, subject to the minimum of Rs. 100 per month to all Central Government employees w.e.f. 1.4.96.

(ii) Grant of Interim Relief at the rate of 10% of the basic pension subject to the minimum of Rs. 100 per month to all Central Government Pensioners/ Family Pensioners w.e.f. 1.4.96.

(c) The recommendations of the Commission are under consideration of the Government.

NGOs receiving financial aid for Abolishing AIDS

2286. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of non-Governmental organisations, district-wise in the country particularly in the state of Punjab which are getting financial aid for abolishing AIDs disease;

(b) the amount given to the organisations for the purpose during the year 1995-96;

(c) whether it is a fact that the amount earmarked for the purpose is not utilised at all;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) what steps are being taken by Government for creating mass awarness on AIDs; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?